

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 25-31 are cancelled. Only previously allowed claims 21-24 remain.

Applicant filed an amendment on September 30, 2008 in response to the most recent Office Action prior to appeal (dated September 29, 2005), and in response to the decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Applicants received a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated November 14, 2008 in which it was indicated that it is not clear if claim 20 is canceled because the claim was presented both in the claim section and in the canceled claim section. Applicant herein resubmits the claim amendments filed September 30, 2008 in which claim 20 is clearly indicated as canceled. Only allowed claims 21-24 remain for consideration by the Examiner.

Applicant believes that no fees are required with this amendment. However, should any such fee be required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge such fee to USPTO Deposit Account No. 02-1065.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of the claims, confirm the allowability of claims 21-24, and arrange for an official Notice of Allowance to be issued in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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